

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes of Meeting Lake Barkley Recreational Boating Project Delivery Team,

1. M. Keith Crowe (COE, WKY/A Operations Manager): - Welcome, minutes from November 9, 2006 meeting approved.

2. Tim Higgs (COE, PM-P): - Status of the Environmental Assessment (EA). Reported the EA had been finalized; the Corps recommendation was no action to change the summer pool lake level. Copies of the EA may be obtained by contacting him at (615) 736-7863. *A Notice of Availability is being finalized and will be distributed soon; it will contain a link to download the EA.*

- Q: (Batts): When was the EA finalized?
- A: (Higgs): *In early December, 2006*
- Q: (Batts): Was lack of funding the basis for the No Action recommendation?
- A: (Higgs): *No, the recommendation was based on evaluation of existing information and a determination that the current operations balances the various demands/uses of the lake.*
- Q: (Crowe): What is the official date to start the *summer pool* drawdown July 1 or July 15?
- A: (Higgs): July 1
- Q: (Crutcher): What is the date of winter pool?
- A: (Higgs): December 1 – March 31
- Q: (Hogg): How much does the lake vary from summer pool to winter pool?
- A: (Higgs): Five feet, summer pool is 359, winter pool is 354.
- Q: (Rufli): Would slowing the rate of drawdown to lengthen higher lake levels in warm weather require a study?
- A: (Higgs): Yes
- C: (Matthews): Changing the drawdown rate during historical low water (late summer months) could have a major adverse impact to river traffic and towing industry.

3. Committee Updates:

Committee: Project Management Plan – Greg Batts, Chairman

- No report

Subcommittee: Signage and Mapping – Kayl Kite, Team Leader

- Work is progressing with the digital format for aerial maps.
- Group discussed using advertisement to fund printing cost.
- If funds are available the Corps will furnish bulletin boards at launch ramps to post maps.
- Maps will be posted on the web page.

- ▶ Action Item: Continue work on finalizing color water depth charts.

Subcommittee: Publicity and Administrative – Jennifer Wheatley, Team Leader

- Keith Crowe reported the phone number (270) 362-4236 has been added to the web page to report hazards and make comments.
- Internet address is: <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/>, link is [Initiative to Improve Recreational Boating on Lake Barkley](#) located under “Hot Topics”

- ▶ Action Item: Continue to look for news release opportunities to provide information to public.

Subcommittee: Information and Education - Jerry Turley, Team Leader

- Passed around a sample brochure that could be used to educate the public.
- ▶ Action Item: Gather feedback on brochure information.
- ▶ Action Item: Recommend how brochures will be produced (locally vs. commercial printing).

Subcommittee: Underwater Hazards and Dredging – Tim Higgs, Team Leader

- Tim Higgs reported he has not finalized the flowchart for the process of dredging.
- Inventory of obstructions that could cause potential hazards is needed.
- Denise Matthews, US Coast Guard emphasized the person responsible for an obstruction such as a wreck is legally required to mark the obstruction. The Coast Guard marks naturally occurring obstructions.
- Question, can the committee make recommendations for areas of the lake that needs dredging? The Corps is now maintaining the main (*authorized*) navigation channels; however the public can request dredging permits, *this would be privately funded. The Corps has no current authority to dredge outside the authorized channel.*
- ▶ Action Item: Regulatory permit flow chart
- ▶ Action Item: Information on Corps dredging authorities
- ▶ Action Item: Investigate feasibility of planting cypress trees in shallow areas.

Subcommittee: Lake Access and Infrastructure – Mike Looney, Team Leader

- Reported an email account has been established for public comments at BoatingonBarkley@Yahoo.com.
- Reported the repairs to bumpers at six courtesy docks had been completed.
- Brought a suggestion before the group about planting sizeable cypress trees in shallow areas and mud flats that will mark and restrict boaters from entering the areas. After discussions the Underwater Hazards and Dredging subcommittee will explore the feasibility of this suggestion.
- ▶ Action Item: Review comments from new BoatingonBarkley@Yahoo.com website.

Subcommittee: Buoys and Channel Marking – Jerry Turley, Team Leader

- Reported his findings on controlling speed at marinas and in the Canal area.
 - Marina's can set buoys if approved by the Corps.
 - A "No Wake" zone in the Canal can be established by the Corps.
- Discussion followed on the ramification of "No Wake" zone in the Canal.

► Action Item: Investigate number and types of accidents in Canal area.

Subcommittee: Natural Resource Management – Paul Rister, Team Leader

- Reported they had explored all subcommittee topics.

► Action Item: Provide final subcommittee write-up on identified topics and issues, discussions, final recommendations, and accomplishments. Provide to PMP committee to add to record.

4. Jason Hasert (Congressman Whitfield Field Representative): Updated the group on Lake Barkley Water Level Improvement Act of 2006, Bill H.R. 6087 that Congressman Whitfield introduced. The 109th Congress failed to vote on the bill before it adjourned. Congressman Whitfield will reintroduce the bill when Congress reconvenes in January. The Lake Barkley Water Level Improvement Act will propose a two-year pilot program to hold Lake Barkley at summer pool level through Labor Day weekend.

- Q: (Higgs) Was there any feed back?
- A: (Hasert) Not really.
- Q: (Matthews) Have they talked to the towing industry about this proposal? Will the bill address the impact and possible effects to the towing industry that maintaining lake levels during low water months could have?
- A: (Hasert) His office welcomes all comments, they can contact his office at www.house.gov

5. Conclusion (Keith Crowe): Subcommittees should meet by mid February; the next PDT meeting will be at 10:00, March 8 at BB&T Bank, Grand Rivers, KY.

8. Meeting participants:

Keith Crowe, COE
 Greg Batts, Prizer Point Marina
 Brian Beisel, USFS
 Bob Dyer, Dock Builder
 John Rufli, KWW
 Kayl Kite, COE
 Mike Looney, COE
 Jason Hasert, Representing
 Congressman Whitfield

Carol McDaniels, COE
 Terry Crutcher, Stewart Co. Chamber
 Monica Hogg, Lyon Co. Tourism
 Stan Humphries, Trigg Co. Judge
 David Landis, COE
 Tim Higgs, COE
 Denise Matthews, USCG
 Jerry Turley, USCG Aux.